NEWS FROM
SENATOR JAMES O. EASTLAN
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FURTHER INFORMATION: LARRY SPEAKES (202-2

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON -- Senator James O. Eastland (D. Miss) said Wednesday he is "assembling all available facts" in the slaying of Martin Luther King "in an effort to ans some questions in my mind."

Senator Eastland, who heads the Internal Security Subcommittee, said he is look into the matter as head of the Senate's anti-communist watchdog committee. "There ar some questions which are unanswered," the Senator said. "They deserve an answer."

He pointed out that Ray's own statements had indicated there was a conspiracy w "blond Latin" man, who directed Ray and provided him with funds. "The obvious questi is - were there communists involved?" the Senator said. "There has been and there a now some questions in my mind on this incident" he added. " I have doubts that this kill was the work of one man."

The Senator said he wanted to find out --

--how Ray knew that King was going to be in the Lorraine Motel...
--how Ray knew the location of King's room. . .
--how Ray knew King would come out on the balcony where he was shot. . .
--how did Ray know exactly where to go to get a room from which to fire the sho

"It is obvious to me," said the Senator, "that someone inside the motel advised 1 "The mathematical odds that King would step from a certain room onto a balcony directly front of a would-be assassin are impossible to calculate," the Senator said. "Only a m armed with detailed and accurate information could have positioned himself to fire the f shot." He said also it was a puzzle as to "who assisted and advised Ray in the intricaci of international travel."

Furthermore, he added, some of the leaders of the Southern Christian Leadersh Conference, which King headed, have said Ray is not guilty.

The Senator emphasized that he had "no direct information" on any individual. "I simply am raising some questions that are in my mind," he said.